cotty, the Scooter," Fails to Show Wife Mines he Spends Five Lonely Days and Nights in Death Valley

otty's Statement

t will never divulge it to any living



Scotty Showing Rhyoliters a Good Time



Mr. and Mrs. Scott as They Drov e Into Rhyolite From Death Valley.

Mrs. Scott's Statement

"If a woman has the right kind of faith in her husband-faith founded on true love-she does not care to know his secrets, if she knows he does not

"I was a little disappointed at first, but now I am willing that his secret should be buried with him,

"I am contented."-MRS. WALTER SCOTT.

ed de Lanay.

see a sidelong bill in

to lip, even repeated Death Valley Scot

head to feet. team, composed of

n had great rolls of d in denominations med in denominations M and he had them in with his characteristic

Saloon loafers casual drinker "shingle off of the at the doors of the

s, and the crowd would had with you?" inpast and camped

subject and at driving great mystery

subject of his mine.
Shouts and applause indicated his course as he restlessly wandered about

Mrs. Scott's Appearance.

In the meantime Mrs. Scott had been shown her room, to which place she was followed by the curious eyes of the chambermaids and waitresses. She were a black nilk dress and a hat to match with large black plumes. But these were given an ashen color from hese were given an ashen color from exposure to the dust and alkali of the

"After two weeks on the plains, five days and nights of which were spent alone in Death valley without any kind of a looking glass, my toilet naturally needs improvement," said Mrs. Scott, The mystery of where Walter Scoti

gets his money has never been solved to the satisfaction of the miners of

Southern Nevada.

I sought to do this by a personal separate interview with Mr. and Mrs. Scott, hoping that the unsuspecting cowboy or the indiscreet wife would drop some word that would unravel the

drop some word that would unravel the puzzling question.

Their stories are herewith given as told from their own lips. The minera believe that Mr. Scott has found somewhere, in the Funeral range of mountains, bordering Death Valley, a deposit of gold in free milling ore, easy to extract and of inexhaustible quantity. Some believe that he has a string of these mines. these mines.

As evidence of this contention they cite the fact that he has a succession of camps throughout the Death Valley country every one of which is stored with provisions of every kind for man, including cured meats, flour and canned goods of all descriptions. For teams and burres he has ample food stored at each of these camps. He has notices prested giving passing miners the right posted giving passing miners the right to take all they need, but enjoining them not to destroy or waste.

He makes periodical trips into the country and travels alone. He only camps overnight with those he meets, and confides no secrets. He disappears at times on the level plains with all of the mystery described in the cheapest dime novels. He is sociable and good-natured. He always is provided with apparently inexhaustible rolls of cur-

The miners read of his buying trains outside and when they see him he ca-hibits a small fortune, which he appears to always carry on his person, and spends it freely.

When they are confronted with the argument that Scott's mines have never been discovered, though prespectors been discovered, though prospectors have practically gone over every foot of the country in Southern Nevada, and know every inch of Death Valley, and have sampled every ledge of rock on the Funeral range of mountains, and adjoining hills and mountains, by those

No sense in running from one doctor to another. Select the best one, then stand by him. Do not delay, but consult him in time when you are sick. Ask his opinion of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for coughs and colds. Then use it or not, just as he says. We have no secrets! We publish theformulae of all our preparations.



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other drink!" he said dropping the who advocate the theory that the rail who advocate the theory that the railroad companies are employing Scott to
visit Death Valley and furnish him
money with which to make his remark
able displays, the reply is given that
it would be useless for him to establish
so many camps at so great cost, and
that instead of spending his time in
the hardest portion of the country he
could camp at some watering place and
make himself comfortable during his make himself comfortable during his trips into the region.

Until Scott is exposed or his "zone" of gold is found Southern Nevada miners will continue to believe that his trips into the desert are genuine and that his mines are richer than the fabulous Monte Cristo.

fabulous Monte Cristo.

Walter Scott first came into notice as a cowboy trick rider in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show. He had a misunderstanding with the management of the show in New York City and left it. He next appeared in Death Valley, and later bought a train from Los Angeles to New York. He threw away money on this trip, to an extent that created astonishment everywhere. He has kept it up for years. He still apparently has an inexhaustible supply.

When taken to himself he displays a good nature and an unusual amount of commonsense. He is nervous, though at all times and jumps from subject to subject.

"Let us keep moving," he will say.
"Life is too short to deal with the past. Let's act, not ask questions. Let's not try to solve problems—they will solve themselves. Keep your own counsel. Take nobody into your confidence. Stand or fall on your own judgment." "It's a wise head that keeps a silent

"Do not even tell your wife your secret, if you would not have the world

"I have as much faith in my wife as any man living has in his wife, but my life's secret I have kept from her.

"I thought I would tell it to her once, but I weakened at the last moment. I have just come from the desert, where I took her to show her my mine, but I do not want the world to know it. Now I am firm and will never

They also say the railroad is

"I may be crazy, but I am still at large. I may not have a mine, but have the money just the same.
"It costs money to buy railroads. Go and try to get a special train to take you across the continent and secure the light for the forther trains are all." right of way for that train over all something. I planked down \$61,000 in cold cash at one time, and I got the train

'Oh, but he stands in with the rail-

reads! they say. "If I buy trains I must have money; if I stand in with the milroads and get trains to carry me across the United States and scatter money along the way like so much chaff, I must be a peculiar kind of lunatic. "So you see that their theory that

Thave no mine is as unreasonable as their theory that I am crazy. If I haven't got any mine and am just working the railroads. I must be a pretty brainy fellow. Oh, I just keep them guessing, and I'm going to keep it un't

Arrested Many Times.

"I have been arrested nearly a dozen nave been arrested hearly a dozen times. My arrests alone have cost me nearly \$20,000. I have been charged with murder, robbery, safe-blowing, burglary, and the common theft of a gold brick. There was no foundation for any of the charges, but it cost me just the same. "I always knew my ground and even

had fun out of the arrests, though they often discommoded me very much. I often acted so peculiarly that they began to think I was guilty, though they did not think so when they arrested me. But when they began to think

did not think so when they arrested me. But when they began to think they had some evidence against me it would develop that I was hundreds of miles away from the scene of the crime when it was committed.

"They have published me as broke hundreds of times, and I had some amusement over this.

"A judge once placed me under \$2000 cash bail. After I gave the money to the sheriff and left the courtroom somebody started the report that I was broke and that my friends were going to send me to Europe to evade the law. They thought by placing me in jail they would end my career. They thought the \$2000 I had given the sheriff was all I had, and they tirged the prosecuting attorney to raise my bond.

"The sheriff nailed me and took me before the judge, and the district attorney asked that my cash bail be increased to \$10,000. I was playing on the stage at the time and spending twice as much as the company took in. So they thought I was on my last legs.

"I took advantage of the judge's sympathy by telling him I could not give the bail. He let me go on the \$2000. When I left the courtroom I took a roll of bills containing \$20,000 from my pocket and flaunted them in the district attorney's face.

"You ought to have seen the surprise. My own attorney could not be lieve his eyes. He thought I was breke, too.

"Oh, well, I have had handreds of

broke, too.

'Oh, well, I have had hundreds of experiences that show the perfidy, treachery and ingratitude of men. I have lavished my money upon people just to try them. Then I have patrojust to try them. inst to try them. Then I have patro-nized people that I knew were in close quarters just to help them along. I have gone to people that I have helped and asked for favors, and have asked



Photo.

for credit just to test those who claimed

for credit just to test those who claimed to be my friends, but nine times out of ten I have been turned down.

"I have come to the conclusion if I do not look out for Scotty's interest it will suffer quickly. I have also come to the conclusion that he is his best counsellor. He has a competency for life, and then some. His wife is provided for, but she nor no other living soul will ever know Scotty's secret."

Study of Mrs. Scott.

Mrs. Scott shows refinement and ed-cation, but is inclined to the romantic. She is as strong physically as she is mentally. Sharing her husband's life of excitement, making his speedy trips across the continent with him, enteracross the continent with him, enter-taining at hotels until late hours and a lover of wine, she does not show the ef-fects. She is contented not to share his secret and took her recent disap-pointment philosophically.

"I married Mr. Scott with mystery surrounding his life six years ago," she said. "Of course I have possessed some curjosity to know his secret of re-

she said. "Of course I have possessed some curiosity to know his secret of recent years. You know I knew nothing of his mine until about three years ago. "I was reared in New York City. He was a typical cowboy of the Western plains, neither handsome nor wealwhen I first met him—just a trick in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show. rider in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

"There has always been a kind of romantic manner about him. He never enlightened me about his affairs by talking about them. My interest deepened when he first brought me West.

"We stopped at a little station on the railroad bordering Death Valley in California. He left me at the station hotel for several days without explaining—he never explains.

tel for several days without explaining—he never explains.

"Upon his return he said he was going to buy a train to take us—to Los Angeles. I thought he had lost his reason and the railroad men thought so, too, but he chartered the train and we went to Los Angeles.

"Upon our arrival he said he was going to charter a through train to Chicago and thence to New York. We all began to think his lunacy was approaching madness. The railroad managers tried to laugh him out of it, but when he laid down \$61,000 in cash, the price demanded, the deal was quickly consummated and we were off for Chicago.

summated and we were off for Chrcago.

'Everybody is familiar* with that
trip, and that was only the beginning.
He has spent money like water ever
since. All I knew was what I saw in
the newspapers. I was informed through
this source that my husband had discovered gold deposits in Death Valley
richer than Monte Cristo.

'We often made trips to the little
station near Death Valley and my husband would leave me as before and always return with fabulous sums of
money. He always had it, however,
from the time I first met him.

'I had never asked any questions,
but when we reached the station on
this trip he asked if I would not like
to'see his mine. I consented as quickly as I could speak. I was invited without my solicitation to see what was
causing others so much concern.

'Well, provisioned and equipped
with camping outfit and drawn by four
strong mules, we left the station early
spring wagon.

spring wagon.
"We drove one whole day across the trackless plains. The first night we camped near a small spring. Under the flare of our campfire we saw four

camped hear a small spring. Chaer the flare of our campfire we saw four graves and the carcasses of a number of animals. My busband said these were the remains of parties who had gone in search of his mines. He said they had lost their way and died of thirst, practically in sight of water.

"It was cloudy the following morning and we were on our way early. We traveled apparently in a straight direction, but I did not know the course. That night we came to a fittle pool of water, which appeared stagmant at first, but which I found was fed by a limpid current. The little stream rose up from the depths of the earth out there in the solitude, made a little reservoir a few feet in circumference for the relief of the wanderer in that desolate region who should be so lucky as to find it, and then disappeared as mysteriously in the alkali sands as it had come.

Alone on the Desert.

Alone on the Desert. "My husband arose at daybreak the following morning, stored the tent with provisions and fuel and started to drive away alone ""Where are you going?" I ven-

"" Where are you going?" I ventured.
"" To the mine," he replied.
"" When will you return?" I asked, for a minute alarmed.
"" I'll return," he said, as his favorite mule "Slim" increased his gait under the command of his master.
"You may think I was afraid, but I wasn't. Left there alone, surrounded by the rolling sands and alkali of Death Valley, nearly three feet below sea level, as completely lost as if I had been dropped onto a raft in midocean, I had the utmost faith in my husband.
"I had read stories in the papers."

"I had read stories in the papers charging him with murder, train and bank robberies, burglaries and nearly every crime known unto the law. I had been told how the curiosity of men who had followed him into the desert had cost them their lives. I had even been told that he had had them waylaid and murdered, but I did not believe it.

"I just waited. I had even forgotten to bring anything to read with me. I whiled away the time by preparing my meals and eating them, and engaged in

a little target practice.
''Time passed on—well, it was the morning of the sixth day that I was awakened by the familiar voice of my

"Whoa, Slim!" he shouted as a sort of signal and I was up in a minute. "We broke camp the following day and struck out across the plains again. There were two suspicious looking sucks in the wagon that were not there when we left the railway station. I don't know what they contained, but they were heavy. My husband took them out before we appeared in the streets of before we appeared in the streets of Rhyolite.
"Well, I leave tomorrow for New York his way of Chicago. My husbands

York by way of Chicago. My husband?
No, he is not going with me. I presume he will return to the desert.
'Disappointed at not seeing the
mines? No, I can't say that I am.

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lence.

I really felt no anxiety for my personal safety. I had my rifle and there were nothing but coyotes to disturb me.

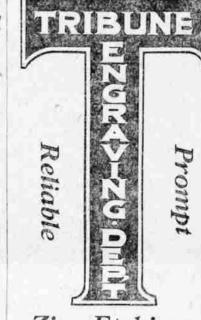
I felt no anxiety for my personal lift he has mines, which he neither mits nor denies, I sometimes think I ought to know where they are in in the has mines, which he neither admits nor denies, I sometimes think that I ought to know where they are in case of his death. But I'll get along. The mystery of his life is his. It is romantic, you know, and it might be that if I knew my husband's secret I would be disappointed. You see, I am enbe disappointed. You see, I am enjoying the sensation of living a sort of continued story without even being able to guess what the end will be.

"No. If a woman has the right kind of faith in her husband—faith founded

on true love—she does not care to know

Mrs. Scott took a train for Chicago and Scotty loaded his wagon with provisions, approximating \$1000 in cost, and returned to the desert.

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